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Ogilvie is eyed for post in shake-up at Justice

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WASHINGTON — Atty. Gen. Elliot L. Richardson will make several key appointments within two weeks in a shake-up at the troubled Justice Department, well-placed administration sources said Thursday.

The sources said Richardson's moves are calculated to restore morale in the Cabinet department that has been the most severely affected by the Watergae scandal and o demonstrate that he will be independent of the White House.

Among those slated to come aboard is Richard E. Friedman, the unsuccessful Republican challenger to Chicago's Mayor Daley Health, Education and Welfare Department.

Others who have been invited, the sources said, include William D. Ruckelshaus, who is acting director of the FBI until next Monday, and Richard B. Ogilvie, the former Republican governor of Illinois, who was defeated for re election last year.

But some appointments have apparently been delayed because of the reluctance of several people appraoched by Richardson to risk joining the Justice Department when its reputation is at a low ebb.

Sources in the department said one example is James R. Thompson, the U.S. attorney in Chicago, who turned down an opportunity to become chief of the new Drug Enforcement Administration.

Those now in the department who may be forced out, the sources added, include Deputy Atty. Gen. Joseph T. Sneed and Assistant Attorneys General Robert G. Dixon and Wallace Johnson. Dixon heads the Department's Office of Legal Counsel and Johnson its land and natural resources division.

All three have been in the Justice Department for a relatively short time, but were originally recommended to former Atty. Gen. Richard G. Kleindienst by the White House. Johnson was a White House aide during President Nixon's first term.